

HSP Frequently Asked Questions

OHCS Webpage: Program Updates, Manuals, and Forms:

<https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/for-providers/Pages/index.aspx>

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Question 1:

To what extent do case managers have to go to verify if a household has received HSP within the past year?

Answer:

Organizations must perform due diligence to verify eligibility. This means every effort must be made to determine if the household has received HSP funds within the previous year. Organizations may use an HMIS database or other resources. Documenting that no previous HSP assistance has been received in the previous 12 months from the date of the last HSP assistance payment is required. See the HSP Program Operations Manual for more information. <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/for-providers/Pages/program-compliance-forms.aspx>.

Question 2:

Are there any exceptions to HSP limits?

Answer:

There are no exceptions to ensuring that no HSP assistance was received in the 12 months prior to additional assistance. There is a limitation to the amount of assistance that can be provided in a calendar year of \$8,000.00 per household.

The 120-days in which an organization may provide HSP (TANF assistance) must be for a non-recurrent, short-term benefit, that addresses a specific crisis or episode of need. The 120-

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days begin on the date the first financial assistance payment is made and continues for 120 days. Multiple financial assistance may be made within this 120 days; however, no financial assistance payment can be made after this 120-day period for at least 12 calendar months. See the HSP Program Operations Manual for more information: <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/providers/Pages/program-compliance-forms.aspx>.

Question 3:

May a state offer additional TANF/MOE-funded non-recurrent, short-term benefits to recipients after they have exhausted four months of TANF/MOE-funded non-recurrent, short-term benefits, if those benefits are similar in nature and designed to address the same crisis or episode of need?

Answer:

No. The continuation of similar benefits designed to address a specific crisis or episode of need provided beyond the initial 120 calendar days of non-recurrent short-term benefit receipt, even if provided through a new program, is not consistent with the regulatory definition of non-recurrent, short-term benefits at [45 CFR 260.31\(b\)\(1\)](#). This is consistent with OHCS regulations and past practice.

Please note, any TANF or MOE funded benefit that is designed to meet a particular need on an ongoing basis (i.e., more than 120 calendar days) would have to be classified as assistance and would be subject to additional regulatory requirements.

Question 4:

What kinds of State expenditures count toward meeting a State's basic Maintenance of Effort (MOE) expenditure requirement?

Answer:

See the Appendix 4 MOE FAQ in the HSP Program Operations Manual for more information related to Maintenance of Effort requirements. <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/providers/Pages/program-compliance-forms.aspx>.

Question 5:

When do childcare expenditures count?

Answer:

See the Appendix 4 MOE FAQ in the HSP Program Operations Manual for more information related to Maintenance of Effort requirements. <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/providers/Pages/program-compliance-forms.aspx>.

Question 6:

When do educational expenditures count?

Answer:

See the Appendix 4 MOE FAQ in the HSP Program Operations Manual for more information related to Maintenance of Effort requirements. <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/providers/Pages/program-compliance-forms.aspx>.

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Question 7:

Is a household eligible for HSP assistance if they do not receive a TANF grant?

Answer:

No, households must be recipients of TANF.

Question 8:

What length of time as an Oregon resident is needed to be eligible for HSP assistance?

Answer:

Those applying for HSP assistance must be currently living in Oregon and intend to remain in Oregon. There is no minimum amount of time a person must live in Oregon to be a resident. Organizations may not set more restrictive residency requirements

Question 9:

When/where is proof of citizenship required?

Answer:

When a client is a TANF recipient, citizenship (qualified non-citizen) is required to receive TANF, so all TANF recipients are eligible.